

## CHAPTER 376.

AN ACT in relation to the erection of public buildings for the use of the city of Saint Paul and the county of Ramsey, upon block twenty (20) of Saint Paul proper, known as the court house square, in the said city of Saint Paul.

*Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Minnesota:*

SECTION 1. That on or before the first (1st) day of March, eighteen hundred and eighty-five (1885), five persons, residents and freeholders of said county of Ramsey, shall be chosen by the judges of the district court, as special commissioners, to carry into effect the purpose of this act; and all vacancies by resignation or otherwise, shall be filled by the judges aforesaid. Each of said special commissioners shall give a bond running jointly to the said city of Saint Paul and the board of county commissioners of the county of Ramsey, in the sum of twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000), with such sureties as may be approved by either of the judges of said district court of said county, conditioned for the faithful performance of his duties, and for the due application and accounting of and for all moneys which he may receive by virtue of his office; and the omission to give such bond for ten days after the appointment of such special commissioner shall render his office vacant. Said bonds shall be filed and recorded in the office of the register of deeds of said county.

SEC. 2. The said special commissioners shall not organize, and shall have no power whatever to contract any debts until after this bill has been voted upon, as provided in this act, and fully becomes a law. The mayor of the city of Saint Paul shall be chairman of said special commission, with equal rights. The county auditor of Ramsey county shall be secretary. No act of the said special commissioners shall be valid unless concurred in by at least four of their number. They shall also have power to pass by-laws for the regulation of their business and for the conduct of their meetings. Each of the said special commissioners, the chairman and secretary, shall receive a compensation of one hundred dollars (\$100) per annum, and no more, payable at the end of each and every quarter, from the day of organization, until the final adjournment of said commissioners.

SEC. 3. Said special commissioners shall, as soon as practicable after their organization, cause to be prepared suitable plans for a building, to be erected on block twenty (20) of Saint Paul proper, known as court house square, in said city of Saint Paul, for the use of said city and county, for a city hall and county court house, and for offices for the city and county officers, and such other pub-

lic uses as may be deemed expedient, and submit the same to the said board of county commissioners of said county, and common council of said city, in joint session, with a careful and detailed estimate of the cost thereof, and upon the approval or upon the modification of any such plan, and the final order of the said county commissioners and common council of said city in joint session to proceed with the work. The said special commissioners shall let the work, or such part of it as they may deem expedient, and place the same under contract as hereinafter stated.

SEC. 4. The said special commissioners shall, before letting said work, advertise in the official newspaper of said city for proposals or bids for all or any portion of the work or materials, or both, to be done and furnished in the construction thereof, and may in addition to the said official newspaper, also advertise for such proposals or bids in such other newspaper or newspapers as they may deem expedient, and for such length of time as they shall determine. The lowest bidder or bidders shall be accepted, provided he or they will enter into such bond and give such security for the performance of his or their contract as may be required by said special commissioners, and approved by a three-fourths ( $\frac{3}{4}$ ) vote of the county commissioners and common council of the city of Saint Paul of the members elect, in joint session. *And provided, further,* that the said special commissioners shall have power to reject all bids of incompetent or irresponsible persons, or such bids as may be unreasonable. All contracts shall be made in duplicate, and executed in behalf of said county and city, jointly, by the chairman and secretary of the said special commission, and countersigned by the city comptroller of said city, one (1) of which shall be filed in the office of the county auditor, and one in the office of the city comptroller. All bonds herein required aforesaid, shall run to the said board of county commissioners of the county of Ramsey and to the city of Saint Paul. All awards of contracts shall be approved by a three-fourths ( $\frac{3}{4}$ ) vote of all the members elect of the county commissioners and common council, in joint session, before contracts can be entered into.

SEC. 5. The said work shall be conducted and completed under the direction and superintendence of the architect and the city engineer of the city of Saint Paul, and to the satisfaction of the said special commissioners, and to the board of county commissioners and common council, in joint session, and shall be paid for together with the expenses of the said commissioners out of a fund which is hereby designated as the court house and city hall building fund, and the city treasurer of the city of Saint Paul is hereby declared to be the treasurer of said building fund. All estimates upon contracts shall be made out and approved by the architect and city engineer, reserving fifteen (15) per cent. therefrom, up to the final estimate, to secure the completion of the work, after which said estimates shall be allowed by the special commissioners before payment is made. The completion of all contracts and the allowance of final estimates must have the final approval, by a

three-fourths ( $\frac{3}{4}$ ) vote of all the members elect of the county commissioners and common council in joint session. All claims (except estimates upon contracts) shall be sworn to by claimants, and the secretary of the said special commission shall specify upon all estimates and claims, the vote by which the same was allowed, recording such estimates, claims and vote in a book entitled "court house and city hall building claims," (such record shall be permanently filed in the office of the county auditor, after the completion of the building and final adjournment of said special commissioners) after which all estimates and claims so recorded shall be transmitted to the city comptroller for auditing, and the city comptroller after having found such estimates and claims to be correct and audited by him in a book entitled "audited claims" shall transmit all such estimates and claims to the city clerk, who shall draw a city order upon the city treasurer, for each estimate and claim, in favor of the party or parties entitled to receive the same: such city order shall be signed by the mayor, city clerk, and countersigned by the city comptroller, after which the city clerk shall deliver the same to the party or parties entitled to receive such, taking a receipt therefor upon the stub of the book from which the city order was taken.

SEC. 6. When said work or materials, or any part thereof, shall be placed under contract, the said city of Saint Paul and county of Ramsey shall hold the land occupied and needed for said building, together with the building which may be thereon erected, in common and for the public uses aforesaid: and the said board of county commissioners of said county of Ramsey is hereby empowered and required to convey to the said city of Saint Paul an undivided one-half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) of all the estate, right, title and interest of said county in and to so much of said land as may be occupied and needed by said building. The said building shall be in charge of a joint committee of six, one-half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) of whom shall be appointed annually, by the president of the common council, from their number, and one-half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) of whom shall be appointed annually by the chairman of the board of county commissioners of Ramsey county, from their number. The members of the said joint committee shall each be entitled to receive for their services a compensation of one hundred dollars (\$100) per annum, and no more, which shall be paid at the expiration of each and every quarter ( $\frac{1}{4}$ ) year, together with the expense of keeping the said building in repair, and the necessary expense of heating and maintaining, shall be paid equally by the said city and county: that is to say, one-half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) thereof out of the treasury of said city, and one-half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) thereof out of the treasury of said county.

SEC. 7. For the purpose of aiding in the construction of said building, the common council of the city of Saint Paul are hereby authorized and empowered to issue the bonds of said city to the amount of one hundred and twenty-five thousand dollars (\$125,000), and the board of county commissioners of the county of Ramsey, aforesaid, are hereby authorized and empowered to issue

the bonds of said county to the amount of one hundred and twenty-five thousand dollars (\$125,000). Said bonds shall bear interest at a rate not to exceed five (5) per cent. per annum, payable semi-annually in the city of New York, and the principal thereof shall be payable in thirty (30) years from their date at the financial agency of the city of Saint Paul and of the county of Ramsey, in the city of New York. Said bonds shall be issued in denomination of one thousand dollars (\$1,000), with sixty (60) interest coupons attached; but none of such bonds shall be negotiated or sold for less than par. Also, the said bonds shall be issued by the said city and county only as they are required, from time to time, for the purpose intended, to be determined upon by the said special commissioners, who shall report to the common council and board of county commissioners the amount required to be issued. Said bonds, when issued, shall be delivered to the mayor of the city of Saint Paul, who shall receipt to the city clerk for those issued by the city, and to the county auditor for those issued by the county; after which the said bonds shall be negotiated by the commissioners of the interest and sinking fund of the city of Saint Paul, and the proceeds thereof shall be placed in the hands of the city treasurer, taking from him duplicate receipts therefor, one (1) of which shall be filed in the office of the county auditor, and one (1) in the office of the city comptroller. All moneys belonging to the "court house and city hall building fund" shall be deposited, by the said treasurer, in the bank or banks that will pay the highest rate of interest upon daily balances, and the said bank or banks shall be required to give such bonds for the safe keeping of said moneys, as the county commissioners and common council in joint session may determine. All interest collected upon said deposits shall be placed to the credit of said building fund, and the one-half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) of whatever balance remaining in the treasury to the credit of the said building fund after the final completion of the building, and the adjournment of the special commission, shall be paid by the city of Saint Paul to the county of Ramsey. The said board of county commissioners shall annually levy a sufficient tax upon the taxable property in said county, for the purpose of paying the interest and providing for a sinking fund to pay the principal of said bonds issued by said county; and the said common council of said city shall levy annually a sufficient tax upon the taxable property in said city, to pay the interest and provide a sinking fund to pay the principal of said bonds issued by said city. *Provided*, the proposition to issue bonds shall be submitted to a vote of the electors of Ramsey county at the spring election in the month of May, eighteen hundred and eighty-two (A. D. 1882). The ballot to be used thereat shall have printed or written thereon, or partly written or printed, the words "For the issue of bonds to build a court house and city hall," or the words "Against the issue of bonds to build a court house and city hall." Said votes shall be canvassed in the same manner as votes for city or county officers are canvassed, and

the result thereof announced; and if, upon such official canvass, it be found that majority of all the votes cast at the said election, as voting for or against the issuing of said bonds, then the issue of said bonds shall be lawful, and said bonds so issued shall be lawful to all intents and purposes.

SEC. 8. Public notice of the proposition aforesaid to be voted upon, shall be given by the city clerk of the city of Saint Paul and by the county auditor of Ramsey county, at least ten (10) days before holding said election; *Provided*, a failure on the part of either or both of the said officers to give such notice, shall not invalidate such election.

SEC. 9. The special commissioners shall make semi-annual reports to the county commissioners and common council in joint session, also a final report of all their acts and doings, which shall be accepted by the said county commissioners and common council before the final adjournment of the said special commissioners. The mayor of the city of Saint Paul shall preside over the joint sessions of the county commissioners and common council.

SEC. 10. This act shall take effect from and after its passage.  
Approved March 8, 1881.

#### CHAPTER 377.

AN ACT to confirm the sale of the line of railway of the Southern Minnesota railway company, extending from La Crescent, on the Mississippi river, in the county of Houston, in a westerly direction to the west line of the State with the branch thereof to Mankato, and to authorize the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul railway company, the purchaser thereof, to own and operate the same.

*Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Minnesota:*

SECTION 1. That the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul railway company, having acquired by purchase the line of railway extending from La Crescent, on the Mississippi river, in the county of Houston, in a westerly direction to the west line of the State with the branch thereof to Mankato, which purchase is evidenced by the deed of the Southern Minnesota railway company, bearing date the first (1st) day of January, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and eighty (1880), and duly recorded in the office of the secretary of State of this State, may use and exercise within this State all the rights, privileges and franchises which have heretofore been, or which shall hereafter be conferred on the Southern Minnesota railway company, including the right to bor-